

**Hanover Advisory Committee**  
**550 Hanover Street**  
**Hanover, MA 02339**  
Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, October 28, 2015

**Opening:**

The meeting was opened at 7:08 p.m. by Chris Martin, Chairman.

**Committee Attendees:**

Chris Martin	Wayne Moores
Emmanuel Dockter	Helen Graves
Jerry O’Hearn	Sandra Hayes
Joan Port-Farwell	Angela Blanchard
Edward Hickey	

**Other Attendees:**

Ms. Janine Smith, Director of Municipal Finance

**Vote for new Vice Chairman**

The current Vice Chairman Helen Graves stated that this year would be her last on the Advisory Committee. Chairman Chris Martin asked the committee members for their thoughts on a new vice chairman. Helen Graves nominated Edward Hickey to be the next vice chairman. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor.

**Advisory Committee Annual Report**

The Advisory Committee’s annual report was discussed. Helen Graves stated that she had worked on it and made some edits. The report will be emailed to committee members for their thoughts and possible changes. Once complete, it will be forwarded to Janine Smith.

Chris Martin asked Janine Smith if she had any issues with the upcoming budget. Janine stated she did not and hadn’t produced any hard numbers yet. Janine stated that she is available for any questions the committee may have via email or phone. Edward Hickey asked Janine if each department starts at a zero budget every year. Janine said yes.

The committee welcomed its new member Emmanuel Dockter. Each committee member introduced themselves and explained their background within the Town of Hanover.

Chris Martin read a report from Town Manager Troy Clarkson.

Chris Martin informed the committee regarding his conversation with Libby Corbo, Chairman of the Center/Sylvester School Building Committee. The School Committee is voting this evening regarding changing Center/Sylvester and Cedar schools from neighborhood schools to district wide schools. Under the proposed plan, Cedar School would house Pre-K to 1<sup>st</sup> grade students and the renovated Center School would house 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> grade students. The proposed change would take place in September of 2019.

Chris Martin read a report from Hanover Schools Business Manager Thomas Raab regarding the proposed budget for the schools.

Chris Martin discussed with the committee televising some of their meetings, particularly meetings that have Town of Hanover department heads giving reports. All committee members agreed that this was an acceptable idea.

Chris Martin asked the committee if they have any issues or concerns they would like to see addressed this fiscal year.

Wayne Moores expressed concern regarding the management of Forge Pond Park and the concession stand. All committee members agreed they would like to see the Park and Recreation Committee brought into the structure of Town Manager government.

Joan Port-Farwell would like to evaluate the stipends that some Town of Hanover employees receive in addition to their salaries to determine if these stipends are necessary.

Edward Hickey stated his concern that each department's yearly budget always looks the same just slightly increased. He would like to discuss ways to create incentives for town departments to save money. Mr. Hickey is also concern about the lack of recycling at the transfer station and the cost of waste removal the town is faced with.

Angela Blanchard is concerned with the quality of water in Hanover. Chris Martin stated that the Department of Public Works is expecting a report from an independent firm regarding the cost of upgrades to the three water treatment plants in Hanover. Mrs. Blanchard also wants the committee to follow up on the CPC spending plan.

Jerry O'Hearn is concerned with the property taxes increasing every year.

Emmanuel Dockter is concerned with the development of Route 53 and the Hanover Mall.

Chris Martin stated these are all important issues, and they will be discussed with the Town Manager.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 18<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.

### **Adjournment**

Edward Hickey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm.